

Application Serial No. 09/344,863

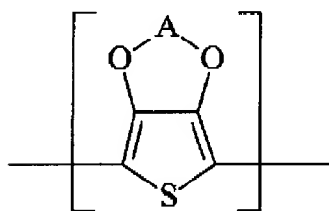
AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Please replace the currently pending claims with the following amended claims.

Claims 1-3 (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) A xerographic fuser component as claimed in claim 27, wherein said fluoropolymer is selected from the group consisting of a) copolymers of vinylidene fluoride, hexafluoropropylene and tetrafluoroethylene; b) terpolymers of vinylidene fluoride, hexafluoropropylene and tetrafluoroethylene; and c) and tetrapolymers of vinylidene fluoride, hexafluoropropylene and tetrafluoroethylene and a cure site monomer.

5. (Currently Amended) A xerographic fuser component as claimed in claim 27, wherein said thiophene-based polymer material has the following formula I:



wherein A is an optionally substituted C₁-C₄ alkylene radical.

6. (Previously Presented) A xerographic fuser component as claimed in claim 5, wherein said optionally substituted C₁-C₄ alkylene radical is selected from the group consisting of a methylene radical, alkyl-substituted methylene radical, 1,2-ethylene radical, 1,2-ethylene radical substituted by C₁-C₁₂-alkyl, 1,2-ethylene radical substituted by phenyl, and a 1,2-cyclohexylene radical.

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7. (Currently Amended) A xerographic fuser component as claimed in claim 6, wherein said thiophene-based polymer material is a polyethylene dioxythiophene.

8. (Currently Amended) A xerographic fuser component as claimed in claim 7, wherein said thiophene-based polymer material is 3,4 polyethylenedioxythiophene.

9. (Previously Presented) A xerographic fuser component as claimed in claim 27, wherein said fuser component further comprises an intermediate layer positioned between said substrate and said thiophene-based material coating.

10. (Previously Presented) A xerographic fuser component as claimed in claim 9, wherein said intermediate layer comprises a polymer.

11. (Previously Presented) A xerographic fuser component as claimed in claim 10, wherein said polymer is selected from the group consisting of fluoropolymers, chloropolymers, silicone rubbers, polyimides, polyamides, polypropylenes, polyethylenes, polybutylenes, polyarylenes, acrylonitriles, polycarbonates, polysulfones, ethylene diene propene monomer, nitrile rubbers and mixtures thereof.

12. (Currently Amended) A xerographic fuser component as claimed in claim 27, wherein said fuser component further comprises an outer coating on said thiophene-based polymer material coating.

13. (Previously Presented) A xerographic fuser component as claimed in claim 12, wherein said outer coating comprises a polymer.

14. (Currently Amended) A xerographic fuser component as claimed in claim 12, wherein said thiophene-based polymer material coating is an adhesive.

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15. (Previously Presented) A xerographic fuser component as claimed in claim 14, wherein said adhesive further comprises polystyrene sulfonic acid.

Claims 16-23 (Cancelled)

24. (Currently Amended) A xerographic fuser component comprising:

a) a substrate comprising a fluoropolymer selected from the group consisting of i) copolymers of vinylidene fluoride, hexafluoropropylene and tetrafluoroethylene; ii) terpolymers of vinylidene fluoride, hexafluoropropylene and tetrafluoroethylene; and iii) tetrapolymers of vinylidene fluoride, hexafluoropropylene, tetrafluoroethylene, and a cure site monomer; and thereon

b) a coating consisting essentially of a thiophene-based polymer material; and

c) a heating member associated with said fuser component.

25. (Currently Amended) A xerographic fuser component as claimed in claim 24, wherein said thiophene-based polymer material is 3,4 polyethylenedioxythiophene.

26. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus for forming images on a recording medium comprising:

a charge-retentive surface to receive an electrostatic latent image thereon;

a biasable component capable of receiving an electrical bias for charging one of a xerographic component or copy substrate surface;

a development component to apply toner to said charge-retentive surface to develop said electrostatic latent image to form a developed image on said charge retentive surface;

a transfer component to transfer the developed image from said charge retentive surface to a copy substrate; and

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a fuser component for fusing said developed image to a surface of said copy substrate, wherein said fuser component comprises:

- a) a substrate comprising a polymer selected from the group consisting of fluoropolymers, chloropolymers, silicone rubbers, polyarylenes, ethylene diene propene monomer, nitrile rubbers and mixtures thereof; and thereon
- b) a coating consisting essentially of a thiophene-based polymer material.

27. (Currently Amended) A xerographic fuser component comprising:

- a) a substrate comprising a polymer selected from the group consisting of fluoropolymers, chloropolymers, silicone rubbers, polyarylenes, ethylene diene propene monomer, nitrile rubbers and mixtures thereof, and thereon
 - b) a coating consisting essentially of a thiophene-based polymer material;
- and
- c) a heating member associated with said fuser component.